

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims of the present application as set forth below. In accordance with the PTO's revised amendment format, a detailed listing of all claims has been provided. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application. Changes to the claims are shown by strikethrough (for deleted matter) and underlining (for added matter).

By way of overview, claims 1-55 are currently pending. The status of the pending claims is indicated below:

- a) Claims 1, 12, 16, and 35 are currently amended;
- b) Claims 2-11, 13-15, 17-34, and 36-49 are original; and
- c) Claims 50-55 are new.

Listing of Claims

1. (Currently amended) A method of managing a software license, comprising:
issuing a license to a client, the license having an expiration date;
receiving a license request from the client during a license update period;
in response to the license request, providing a new expiration date for the license;

and

reissuing the license with the new expiration date to the client.

2. (Original) A method of managing a software license, comprising:
issuing a license to a client, the license having an expiration date;
receiving a license request from the client during a license update period;
determining that the client has lost the license;

1 issuing a new license to the client if a new license is available, the new license
2 having a new expiration date; and

3 issuing a temporary license to the client if a new license is not available, the
4 temporary license being valid for a temporary period.

5
6 3. (Original) A method as recited in claim 2, wherein a temporary license has
7 been issued to the client and the temporary license is within the temporary period, the
8 method further comprising:

9 receiving a license request each time the client accesses a terminal server;

10 reissuing the license to the client if the license is available, the reissued license
11 having a new expiration date;

12 issuing a new license to the client if the license is not available and a new license
13 is available, the new license having a new expiration date; and

14 granting the client access to terminal server resources when the license is not
15 reissued and a new license is not issued.

16
17 4. (Original) A method as recited in claim 2, wherein a temporary license has
18 been issued to the client and the temporary license is beyond the temporary period, the
19 method further comprising:

20 receiving a license request when the client accesses a terminal server;

21 reissuing the license to the client if the license is available, the reissued license
22 having a new expiration date;

23 issuing a new license to the client if the license is not available and a new license
24 is available, the new license having a new expiration date; and

25

1 denying the client access to terminal server resources when the license is not
2 reissued and a new license is not issued.

3
4 5. (Original) A method as recited in claim 2, further comprising:
5 on the expiration date of the license, making the license available to be issued to
6 any client.

7
8 6. (Original) A method as recited in claim 2, further comprising:
9 selecting the expiration date to be a random date such that a period extending
10 from the day the license is issued through the expiration date of the license is at least one
11 day less than the length of the temporary period.

12
13 7. (Original) A method as recited in claim 2, wherein the license update period
14 begins a predetermined number of days before the expiration date.

15
16 8. (Original) A method as recited in claim 2, wherein the temporary period is a 90
17 day period.

18
19 9. (Original) A method as recited in claim 6, wherein the random date is between
20 52 and 89 days from the date the license is issued.

21
22 10. (Original) A method as recited in claim 2, wherein the temporary license is
23 non-renewable.
24
25

1 11. (Original) Computer-readable media having computer-readable instructions
2 for performing the method as recited in claim 2.

3
4 12. (Currently amended) A method of managing a software license, comprising:
5 receiving a license request from a client;
6 determining that the expiration date of a license previously issued to the client has
7 been reached;
8 reissuing the license to the client if the license is available, the reissued license
9 having a new expiration date;
10 issuing a new license to the client if a new license is available and the previously
11 issued license is not available, the new license having a new expiration date; and
12 denying the client access to software resources if the previously issued license is
13 not reissued and a new license is not issued.

14
15 13. (Original) A method as recited in claim 12, further comprising:
16 on the expiration date of the license, making the license available to be issued to
17 any client.

18
19 14. (Original) A method as recited in claim 12, wherein the software resources are
20 located on a terminal server.

21
22 15. (Original) Computer-readable media having computer-readable instructions
23 for performing the method as recited in claim 12.

24
25 16. (Currently amended) A method, comprising:

1 receiving a license to access software resources, the license having an expiration
2 date;

3 requesting a license update during an update period preceding the expiration date;
4 and

5 in response to the requesting, receiving the license as a reissued license during the
6 update period, the reissued license having a new expiration date.

7
8 17. (Original) A method as recited in claim 16, wherein the software resources are
9 located on a terminal server.

10
11 18. (Original) A method as recited in claim 17, wherein requesting a license
12 update occurs upon accessing the terminal server.

13
14 19. (Original) A method, comprising:

15 receiving a license to access software resources, the license having an expiration
16 date;

17 having lost the license, requesting a license update during a license update period;

18 receiving a new license if a new license is available, the new license having a new
19 expiration date; and

20 receiving a temporary license if a new license is not available, the temporary
21 license being valid for a temporary period.

22
23 20. (Original) A method as recited in claim 19, wherein a temporary license has
24 been received and is within the temporary period, the method further comprising:

25 making a license request;

1 receiving the license as a reissued license if the license is available, the reissued
2 license having a new expiration date;

3 receiving a new license if a new license is available and the license is not
4 available, the new license having a new expiration date; and

5 having access to the software resources when the license is not received as a
6 reissued license and a new license is not received.

7
8 21. (Original) A method as recited in claim 19, wherein a temporary license has
9 been received and is beyond the temporary period, the method further comprising:

10 making a license request;

11 receiving the license as a reissued license if the license is available, the reissued
12 license having a new expiration date;

13 receiving a new license if a new license is available and the license is not
14 available, the new license having a new expiration date; and

15 being denied access to the software resources if the license is not received as a
16 reissued license and a new license is not received.

17
18 22. (Original) A method as recited in claim 19, wherein the expiration date is a
19 random date such that the period extending from the day the license is first received
20 through the expiration date, is at least one day less than the length of the temporary
21 period.

22
23 23. (Original) A method as recited in claim 19, wherein the license update period
24 begins a predetermined number of days before the expiration date.

25

1 24. (Original) A method as recited in claim 19, wherein the temporary period is a
2 90 day period.

3
4 25. (Original) A method as recited in claim 19, wherein the expiration date is a
5 random date selected between 52 and 89 days from the date the license is issued.

6
7 26. (Original) A method as recited in claim 19, wherein the temporary license is
8 non-renewable.

9
10 27. (Original) Computer-readable media having computer-readable instructions
11 for performing the method as recited in claim 19.

12
13 28. (Original) A method as recited in claim 19, wherein the software resources are
14 located on a terminal server.

15
16 29. (Original) A method as recited in claim 28, wherein requesting a license
17 update occurs upon accessing the terminal server.

18
19 30. (Original) A method comprising:
20 receiving a license to access software resources, the license having an expiration
21 date;
22 making a license request after the expiration date has been reached;
23 receiving the license as a reissued license if the license is available, the reissued
24 license having a new expiration date;

25

1 receiving a new license if a new license is available and the license is not
2 available, the new license having a new expiration date; and

3 being denied access to the software resources if a reissued license or a new license
4 is not received as a result of the license request.

5
6 31. (Original) A method as recited in claim 30 wherein the license is made
7 available to be issued to any client on the expiration date of the license.

8
9 32. (Original) Computer-readable media having computer-readable instructions
10 for performing the method as recited in claim 30.

11
12 33. (Original) A method as recited in claim 30, wherein the software resources are
13 located on a terminal server.

14
15 34. (Original) A method as recited in claim 33, wherein making a license request
16 occurs upon accessing the terminal server.

17
18 35. (Currently amended) A license server comprising:
19 an available license pool to store licenses;
20 an assigned license pool to store information regarding licenses assigned to
21 clients;

22 a request handling module to receive a license request;
23 a new license module to search the available license pool, setting an expiration
24 date on a new license if a new license is available, and issuing the new license to a client;

25 and

1 a license clean-up module operating periodically to review the assigned license
2 pool and return any license to the available license pool which is found to have reached
3 its expiration date.

4
5 36. (Original) A license server as recited in claim 35, further comprising:

6 a same license module which, during a license update period, updates the
7 expiration date of a license assigned to a client and reissues the license to the client as an
8 updated license, and, after the license update period, searches in the available license pool
9 for the license, updates the expiration date of the license, and reissues the license to the
10 client as an updated license if the license is found in the available license pool.

11
12 37. (Original) A license server as recited in claim 35, further comprising:

13 a temporary license module to issue a temporary license to a client during a
14 license update period if the client loses a license, is not issued a new license, and has not
15 yet been issued a temporary license, the temporary license having a temporary period.

16
17 38. (Original) A license server as recited in claim 35, wherein periodically is daily,
18 such that the license clean-up module operates on a daily basis to review the assigned
19 license pool and return any license to the available license pool which is found to have
20 reached its expiration date.

21
22 39. (Original) A license server as recited in claim 36, wherein the license update
23 period is a period of a predetermined number of days which immediately precedes the
24 expiration date of the license.

25

1 40. (Original) A license server as recited in claim 37, wherein each expiration
2 date is a random date selected such that a period extending from the day a new license is
3 issued through the expiration date of the new license, is at least one day less than the
4 length of the temporary period.

5
6 41. (Original) A terminal server, comprising:
7 a database to provide terminal server resources to a client;
8 a client access module executing on the one or more processors for allowing
9 access to the terminal server resources by a client having a license and denying access to
10 the terminal server resources by a client not having a license; and,

11 a license request module to:

12 obtain a license for an unlicensed client that connects to the terminal
13 server;

14 obtain a license update for a licensed client that connects to the terminal
15 server during a license update period; and

16 obtain a license update or a new license for a previously licensed client
17 connecting to the terminal server after the license update period.

18
19 42. (Original) A terminal server as recited in claim 41, wherein the license request
20 module further obtains a temporary license for a licensed client that has lost its license
21 and connects during the license update period.

22
23 43. (Original) A system for licensing software, comprising:

24 a license generator configured to receive a license purchase request, and to
25 produce and transport licenses in response to the license purchase request; and,

1 a license server configured to submit the license purchase request to the license
2 generator and store the licenses received in response to the license purchase request in an
3 available license pool; the license server further configured to issue individual licenses to
4 individual clients from the available license pool, the individual licenses each having an
5 expiration date; the license server further configured to return licenses that reach their
6 expiration date to the available license pool.

7
8 44. (Original) A system as recited in claim 43, wherein the license server is
9 further configured to update the expiration date of a client's license and reissue the
10 client's license to the client when the client requests a license during a license update
11 period.

12
13 45. (Original) A system as recited in claim 44, wherein the license server is
14 further configured to search the available license pool for a client's license when the
15 client requests a license after the license update period, and, if the client's license is
16 found in the available license pool, to update the expiration date of the client's license
17 and reissue the client's license to the client.

18
19 46. (Original) A system as recited in claim 45, wherein the license server is
20 further configured to search the available license pool for a new license when the client's
21 license is not found in the available license pool, and to set an expiration date for the new
22 license and issue the new license to the client.

1 47. (Original) A system as recited in claim 43, wherein the license server is
2 further configured to issue a temporary license to the client when the client requests a
3 license during a license update period and the client has lost its license.

4
5 48. (Original) A system as recited in claim 47, wherein the temporary license has
6 a temporary period and expiration dates are random dates which are set such that a period
7 extending from the day a license is issued through the expiration date of the license, is at
8 least one day less than the length of the temporary period.

9
10 49. (Original) A system as recited in claim 43, further comprising:
11 a terminal server to facilitate connectivity between the license server and clients
12 for issuing licenses to clients, and to provide resources for clients having a license;
13 the terminal server configured to obtain a license for an unlicensed client that
14 connects to the terminal server;
15 the terminal server further configured to obtain a license update for a licensed
16 client that connects to the terminal server during a license update period;
17 the terminal server further configured to obtain a license update or a new license
18 for a previously licensed client connecting to the terminal server after the license update
19 period.

20
21 50. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the method is implemented by a
22 computer system, and wherein the issuing a license, receiving, providing, and reissuing
23 are implemented by respective logic.

1 **51. (New)** The method of claim 2, wherein the method is implemented by a
2 computer system, and wherein the issuing a license, receiving, determining, issuing a new
3 license, and issuing a temporary license are implemented by respective logic.

4
5 **52. (New)** The method of claim 12, wherein the method is implemented by a
6 computer system, and wherein the receiving, determining, reissuing, issuing, and denying
7 are implemented by respective logic.

8
9 **53. (New)** The method of claim 16, wherein the method is implemented by a
10 computer system, and wherein the receiving a license, requesting, and receiving the
11 license as a reissued license are implemented by respective logic.

12
13 **54. (New)** The method of claim 19, wherein the method is implemented by a
14 computer system, and wherein the receiving a license, requesting, receiving a new
15 license, and receiving a temporary license are implemented by respective logic.

16
17 **55. (New)** The method of claim 30, wherein the method is implemented by a
18 computer system, and wherein the receiving a license, making, receiving the license as a
19 reissued license, receiving a new license, and being denied access are implemented by
20 respective logic.